



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



August 2003

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
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ATLANTIC NORTH

ANZ230	Boston Harbor								
Boston Light	03	1545EST			0	0			Marine Tstm Wind (EG34)
	Radar estimated winds								
ANZ250	Merrimack River Ma And Out 20Nm To Plymouth Ma And Out 40Nm								
Rockport	03	1545EST			0	0			Marine Tstm Wind (EG34)
	Radar estimated winds								

CONNECTICUT, Northeast

Hartford County									
Bristol to New Britain	13	1330EST 1345EST			0	0	25K		Thunderstorm Wind (EG50)
A severe thunderstorm downed power lines and caused minor flooding in southern Hartford County. Plainville was hardest hit, with nearly 3,600 customers left without power. Another 3,000 customers in Bristol and New Britain also lost power because of the storm. Some area roads also experienced minor flooding.									
Hartford County									
Enfield	16	1610EST			0	0			Hail(0.75)
Hartford County									
Avon	16	1635EST			0	0			Hail(0.75)
A severe thunderstorm produced dime sized hail in Enfield and Avon.									

MASSACHUSETTS, Central and East

Plymouth County									
West Bridgewater	02	1436EST			0	0	15K		Thunderstorm Wind (EG52)
An isolated severe thunderstorm downed trees and knocked over an unsecured shed in West Bridgewater. The storm produced wind gusts estimated as high as 60 mph.									
Middlesex County									
Burlington	03	1500EST			0	0	250K		Lightning
Lightning struck near the Burlington Police Station and knocked out several computers in the dispatch center, causing an estimated \$250,000 in damage. A temporary dispatch center had to be established for several weeks until the systems could be repaired.									
Middlesex County									
Chelmsford Center to Lowell	07	1535EST 1635EST			0	0	25K		Flash Flood
Slow moving thunderstorms brought torrential rainfall to parts of the Merrimack Valley, causing significant urban flooding in Chelmsford and Lowell. A spotter in Lowell reported nearly three inches of rain in one hour. In Chelmsford, flood waters caused a sinkhole to develop on Pine Hill Road, which trapped two cars. Several vehicles were caught in flood waters at the intersection of Gorham and Moor Streets in Lowell. No injuries were reported.									
Hampshire County									
Cummington to Chesterfield	11	1600EST 1900EST			0	0	200K		Flash Flood
Slow moving thunderstorms with torrential rainfall caused flash flooding in Cummington, Worthington, and Chesterfield, leaving more than a half dozen roads impassable. High waters on the East Branch of the Westfield River trapped two hikers for several hours, before the waters receded and allowed them to cross a narrow portion of the river. There were no injuries. In Cummington, Stage Street and a portion of Route 9 suffered significant damage from the floods. Damage was also severe in Worthington, including Cold Street, Dingle Road, Capen Street, Cummington Road, Lindsey Hill Road, Briar Hill Road, Route 143, and River Road. In Chesterfield, damage was less severe, although temporary evacuation of several households along Route 143 occurred.									



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					Killed	Injured	Property Crops	

MASSACHUSETTS, Central and East

Hampden County

Granville	12	1655EST 1900EST			0	0	50K	Flash Flood
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Worcester County

Northborough to Westborough	12	1830EST 2000EST			0	0	50K	Flash Flood
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Worcester County

Rutland	12	2000EST 2100EST			0	0	25K	Flash Flood
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Slow moving thunderstorms produced flash flooding in Hampden and Worcester Counties. In Granville, torrential rainfall caused Cooley Pond to overflow, causing a temporary closure of Water Street. In Northborough, portions of Route 20, Kendall Road, and Pinehaven Drive were closed due to flooding. Flood waters also closed Routes 30 and 135 in Westborough, and Picadilly Creek rose out of its banks and flooded a nearby roadway. In Rutland, flooding affected Route 68 between Wachusett Street and the Holden town line, as well as Glenwood Road. Flood waters subsided quickly once the heaviest rainfall ended.

Middlesex County

Billerica	13	1411EST			0	0		Hail(0.75)
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Middlesex County

Woburn to Burlington	13	1440EST 1443EST			0	0	25K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG50)
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Plymouth County

Plymouth	13	1620EST			0	0		Hail(1.00)
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Plymouth County

Hanson	13	1625EST			0	0	10K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG50)
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Plymouth County

Plymouth	13	1646EST 1800EST			0	0	25K	Flash Flood
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Plymouth County

Duxbury	13	1650EST			0	0		Hail(0.75)
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Bristol County

Seekonk	13	1822EST			0	0	10K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG50)
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Bristol County

Somerset	13	1928EST 2100EST			0	0	15K	Flash Flood
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Severe thunderstorms moved across parts of eastern Massachusetts. The storms brought dime sized hail to Billerica, then downed trees and wires in Woburn and Burlington. Other severe thunderstorms in southeast Massachusetts produced dime to quarter sized hail in Duxbury and downed large branches in Hanson and Seekonk. Torrential rainfall with the storms caused flash flooding in Plymouth, where water rose up to the doors of several vehicles, and closed exits 5,6, and 7 of Route 3. Flash flooding also affected Somerset, where Buffington Brook came out of its banks and closed Route 138 at Buffington Street. Several cars were stranded on Airport Road in Fall River because of flooding.

Hampshire County

Northampton	16	1355EST 1410EST			0	0	10K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG50)
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Hampden County

Holyoke	16	1425EST			0	0	5K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG50)
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Hampden County

Westfield	16	1520EST			0	0		Hail(0.88)
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Hampden County

Agawam	16	1605EST			0	0		Hail(0.88)
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MASSACHUSETTS, Central and East

Plymouth County									
Plymouth	16	2015EST			0	0	15K		Thunderstorm Wind (EG50)
Plymouth County									
Plymouth	16	2035EST 2200EST			0	0	10K		Flash Flood
Barnstable County									
Mashpee	16	2328EST			0	0	2.5M		Lightning

Severe thunderstorms downed trees in Northampton and large branches in Holyoke, then dropped nickel sized hail in Westfield and Agawam. Another severe thunderstorm in Marshfield downed four large trees, before torrential rainfall flooded several roads in Plymouth. Later that evening on Cape Cod, a lightning strike ignited a fire in Mashpee, completely destroying a house valued at 2.5 million dollars.

Franklin County									
New Salem	22	1524EST			0	0			Hail(1.00)
Middlesex County									
North Chelmsford	22	1635EST			0	0	5K		Thunderstorm Wind (EG50)
Worcester County									
Berlin to Grafton	22	1643EST 1708EST			0	0	20K		Thunderstorm Wind (EG50)
Worcester County									
Gardner	22	1649EST			0	2			Lightning
Worcester County									
Shrewsbury to Grafton	22	1651EST 1712EST			0	0			Hail(0.75)
Middlesex County									
Westford	22	1652EST			0	0	10K		Thunderstorm Wind (EG50)
Middlesex County									
Hopkinton	22	1710EST			0	0	5K		Thunderstorm Wind (EG50)
Middlesex County									
Lincoln	22	1740EST			0	0	10K		Thunderstorm Wind (EG50)
Worcester County									
Blackstone	22	1800EST			0	0	10K		Thunderstorm Wind (EG50)

Severe thunderstorms produced quarter sized hail in New Salem. As the storms moved east, they downed trees, wires, and large branches throughout much of Worcester and Middlesex Counties. Dime sized hail was reported in Shrewsbury, Worcester, and Grafton. In Gardner, a 13-year old and 15-year old were struck by lightning as they were using a computer, causing minor injuries to both.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, Southern

Cheshire County									
Walpole	06	1515EST			0	0			Hail(0.75)
Cheshire County									
Westmoreland	06	1550EST			0	0	20K		Thunderstorm Wind (EG50)
Cheshire County									
Westmoreland	06	1554EST			0	0			Hail(0.75)
Cheshire County									
Chesterfield to Westmoreland	06	1725EST 2100EST			0	0	3M		Flash Flood



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NEW HAMPSHIRE, Southern

Slow moving severe thunderstorms brought damaging winds, hail, and flash flooding to Cheshire County. Westmoreland was the hardest hit area, where most of the town's roads were blocked off because of flooding, downed trees, and power lines. A spotter measured 4.50 inches of rain in under three hours along with dime sized hail. One portion of Route 12 was washed out, part of Route 63 was closed due to flooding, and Mill Brook rose out of its banks and flooded a the first floor of a nearby house. Some people were evacuated from their homes. Dime sized hail was also reported in Walpole.

Route 12 was closed for several days following the torrential rainfall. Damage from the storm was estimated at 3 million dollars, mainly due to the flash flooding.

Cheshire County

**Chesterfield to
Gilsum**

10	1500EST 1630EST	0	1	500K	Flash Flood
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For the second time in five days, roads in Westmoreland and surrounding towns were devastated by flash flooding after a series of torrential downpours. Up to five inches of rain fell in a three hour period, forcing the evacuation of several homes and undermining roadways already in the midst of repairs from the flooding that occurred on August 6th. A 14-year old boy was found clinging to branches in Mill Brook after he was sucked under Route 63, but only suffered from minor injuries. The boy was out looking at storm damage when he came too close to a whirlpool near the road.

Hillsborough County

Pelham

13	1430EST	0	9	Lightning
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Five campers and four staff members taking shelter in a building at a summer day camp in Pelham were taken to areas hospitals with minor injuries when lightning struck near them at Veterans Memorial Park.

Cheshire County

Jaffrey

16	1705EST	0	12	Lightning
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Twelve people were injured when lightning struck Jaffrey's annual Festival of Fireworks at Silver Ranch Airport. Lightning also set off some of the fireworks, but the fireworks did not cause any of the injuries.

RHODE ISLAND

Providence County

Smithfield

13	1815EST	0	0	5K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG50)
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Kent County

East Greenwich

13	1920EST 2100EST	0	0	10K	Flash Flood
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Kent County

East Greenwich

13	1920EST	0	0	15K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG50)
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A severe thunderstorm downed trees and wires in East Greenwich, and flooded South Road, making it impassable for a time. Another severe thunderstorm downed a tree and large branches on Barnes Street in Smithfield.